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RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHLM #1560 3231043
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FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 7209
INFO RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 0114
RUEHAN/AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO 0005
RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM 0028
RUEHDJ/AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI 0002
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 7525
RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0013
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 4131
RUEHTO/AMEMBASSY MAPUTO 0051
RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0075
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 1573
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 0130
RUEHPL/AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS 0519
RUEHSA/AMEMBASSY PRETORIA 0062
RUEHYN/AMEMBASSY SANAA 0020
RUEHVT/AMEMBASSY VALLETTA 0032
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2456

UNCLAS COLOMBO 001560

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

STATE FOR SCA/INS, SCA/RA, AND AF/RSA JUN BANDO
ADDIS ABABA FOR USAU

E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: MALDIVES FEEDBACK ON EAST AFRICA SOUTH WEST INDIAN OCEAN
MARITIME SECURITY CONFERENCE

REF: SECSTATE 145423

¶1. (U) Econoff thanked Maldives for their participation in the 2007 East Africa South West Indian Ocean Maritime Security (EASWIO) Conference, and discussed reftel with Maldives Ministry of Transport and Communication's Director of Ports and Maritime, Mohamed Latheef. Latheef led the five-person Maldives delegation to the conference. Latheef said that the Maldivian delegation found the conference valuable, and that Maldives looks forward to participating in future EASWIO meetings.

¶2. (SBU) Latheef responded to reftel para C queries as follows:

¶A. The most beneficial course of the conference was the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) facility audit.

¶B. Maldives' two priorities in regards to technical assistance in maritime security and safety are to develop its human resources in the area of maritime security, and to assist the organization of the South Asia Regional Port Security Corporative (SARPSO) Conference. The Conference is expected to be held in Male' in 2008.

¶C. The greatest progress Maldives has made in strengthening its maritime security is the implementation of the ISPS Code in Maldives.

¶D. The next EASWIO meeting should be organized into technical working groups.

¶E. The conference can be improved by inviting operational level candidates instead of high-ranking officers.

BLAKE